GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2388
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
NATIONAL LONG DISTANCE SECTOR
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Telecom Commission to finalise the policy on opening up the National Long Distance Sector was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b) Meetings of the Full Telecom Commission were held. Broad major policy recommendations of the Commission are:

(i) Licence for Long Distance operations to be on all India basis. Long Distance operators to carry inter-circle long distance traffic.

(ii) No restriction on the number of entrants.

(iii) Fixed one time entry fee and annual revenue share to be paid by the licensees.

(iv) Infrastructure providers to be of two categories.

(v) Foreign equity to be limited to 49%.

(c) By 15th August, 2000.